

State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: March 31, 2008

Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99		Part: II Research and Development	
Project Title: Data Integration and Partnership for Statewide Transportation Planning		Project ID: 0092-07-23	
Administrative Contact: Nikki Hatch		Sponsor: Wisconsin Department of Transportation	
WisDOT Technical Contact: Jim McDonnell		Approved Starting Date: September 28, 2007	
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$79,989		Original End Date: March 28, 2009	
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Jessica Y. Guo Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering University of Wisconsin - Madison		Current End Date: March 28, 2009	
		Number of Extensions: 0	

Percent Complete: 30%

Request a No Cost Time Extension (Please Select One): ☐ YES ☒ NO

Reason for No Cost Time Extension: N/A

Project Description:

This project aims to thoroughly assess the data availability, accessibility, and interoperability issues arisen from the transportation planning process in Wisconsin and identify possible approaches for addressing these issues. The specific research activities include:

1. Synthesize the best practices of data integration and partnership for transportation planning in the nation and abroad.
2. Identify the business and analytical processes constituting the current statewide transportation planning practice in Wisconsin and catalog the data currently used to support the processes.
3. Identify and document barriers to the access and integration of planning-related data, as well as current/future data needs that better support transportation modeling and planning activities in Wisconsin.
4. Develop data and process flow diagrams to reflect the desired movement and inter-relationships of data for supporting current and future transportation planning needs.
5. Recommend methodologies for overcoming the barriers to data integration and partnership within WisDOT, as well as between WisDOT and other agencies. Identify the next steps to further evaluate the cost effectiveness of the recommended methodologies.
6. Prepare final report.

Progress This Quarter:

(Includes project committee mtgs, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.)

The PI met with Aileen Switzer (chief of the Intercity Planning Section and member of project advisory committee) on March 6th to coordinate the participation of the Bureau of Planning and Economic Development in the data user survey (see bullet point 3 below). Also discussed in the meeting were additional target groups for the survey and individuals who could potentially provide the information needed for the data catalog.

The PI has requested for WHRP Program Manager's assistance in scheduling a project committee meeting.

Below is the current status of each on-going task:

1. The research team has completed the literature synthesis, but continues to update its content as more publications on the topic become available.
2. After the initial investigation of planning-related data sources, it was found that a more effective approach for tracking down the data flow process throughout WisDOT is to start from the user end, as opposed to the

- custodians. The research team has therefore started task 3 earlier than initially scheduled (see the next bullet point). Once the data user survey reveals the datasets that are currently being used or needed, we will then gather additional information pertaining to these data to develop the data catalog.
3. A data user survey has been developed and set up on-line. The focus on this survey is to collect information on the data needs for current and future planning; data sources; and user experience regarding accessibility, quality, format, and timeliness of data. The current response rate is around 35% and the survey is expected to close on April 15.

Work Next Quarter:

The research team will complete task 3 by analyzing the data user survey results and conducting follow-up interviews to gain more understanding of the issues and data needs identified from the general survey. We will also complete task 2 to develop a data catalog documenting the current status and use of planning-related data and a flow diagram depicting the transfer of data and inter-dependency of business processes. Based on the outcomes of these two tasks, we will begin developing data and process flow diagrams to depict the desired movement and inter-relationships of data for supporting current and future transportation planning needs.

Circumstances Affecting Progress/Budget:

See bullet points 2 and 3 under Progress This Quarter.

Gantt Chart:

Task	2007			2008												2009		
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
1																		
2																		
3																		
4																		
5																		
6																		
Deliverables																		
Literature Synthesis				X														
Data Catalog																		
Research Presentation															X			
Final Report																		X
Quarterly Reports			X			X			X			X			X			X

: adjusted schedule